

## Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 TRSE-00 /071 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/IAI:GDKULICK/HLK

APPROVED BY NEA - ALFRED L. ATHERTON, JR.

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P 110145Z NOV 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 277328

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, IS, US

SUBJECT: ISRAELI DEMARCHE ON SECURITY COUNCIL WEST BANK  
DEBATE

1. ISRAELI MINISTER BAR-ON TELEPHONED ATHERTON NOVEMBER 9  
TO EXPRESS GOI VIEW THAT DRAFT CONSENSUS STATEMENT BEING  
CIRCULATED BY EGYPTIANS IN NEW YORK WAS UNBALANCED AND  
WHOLLY UNACCEPTABLE. HE STRESSED HOPE THAT U.S. WILL  
HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH STATEMENT.

2. ATHERTON TELEPHONED BAR-ON NOVEMBER 10 TO INFORM HIM  
OF DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS TO USUN. ATHERTON SAID HE  
ASSUMED AMBASSADOR HERZOG HAD ALREADY BEEN INFORMED BY  
SCRANTON, BUT WISHED TO RESPOND DIRECTLY TO BAR'ON'S CALL  
OF PREVIOUS DAY.

3. ATHERTON POINTED OUT THAT U.S. DID NOT WISH TO SEE  
CURRENT DEBATE CONVENED AND HAD ATTEMPTED TO PERSUADE  
THE EGYPTIANS TO ALLOW DEBATE TO CONCLUDE WITHOUT FORMAL  
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ACTION. THIS EFFORT WAS UNSUCCESSFUL. IN CONSIDERING

SITUATION WE NOW FACE, WE HAVE TO DO SO AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF OUR PAST POLICY POSITIONS. FIRST, WE HAVE LONG PUBLIC RECORD OF DISAGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL'S SETTLEMENT POLICIES IN OCCUPIED TERRITORY. SECOND, WHEN

WE FACED SIMILAR SITUATION IN SECURITY COUNCIL IN MAY, WE HAD BEEN CLOSE TO AGREEMENT ON A CONSENSUS STATEMENT. IN VIEW OF THESE CONSIDERATIONS, OUR PRESENT EFFORT WOULD BE TO SUGGEST CHANGES IN EGYPTIAN DRAFT TO PRODUCE A RESULT SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME AS THE STATEMENT WE WOULD HAVE BEEN PREPARED TO ASSOCIATE WITH IN MAY. IN ADDITION, WE WOULD SEEK CHANGES IN PARA 5 OF EGYPTIAN DRAFT (REFERRING TO PROFANATION OF HOLY PLACES), SINCE IN ITS PRESENT FORM, WE CONSIDERED IT UNBALANCED. IF WE COULD NOT ACHIEVE THE REQUIRED CHANGES, WE WOULD FOLLOW THE COURSE WE DID IN MAY -- I.E., GO ALONG WITH A MAJORITY STATEMENT FROM WHICH WE WOULD DISASSOCIATE OURSELVES.

4. ATHERTON ASSURED BAR-ON THAT ISRAELI VIEWS HAD BEEN FULLY CONSIDERED BUT THAT OUR PREVIOUS POSITIONS AND POLICIES HAD TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN OUR APPROACH TO CURRENT DEBATE.

5. BAR-ON RESPONDED THAT ANY OUTCOME CRITICAL OF ISRAEL WOULD BE BAD AT THIS JUNCTURE AND WOULD BE SEEN AS A SUCCESS FOR ARAB EFFORTS TO INCREASE PRESSURES ON ISRAEL. HE SAID THIS WOULD "CAUSE GREAT UNHAPPINESS."

6. ATHERTON REPLIED THAT WE REALIZED THERE WAS NO IDEAL OUTCOME BUT, GIVEN SITUATION WITH WHICH WE WERE FACED, WE WERE SEEKING OUTCOME THAT WOULD BE THE LEAST DAMAGING. WE ALSO HAD TO KEEP IN MIND THAT IF MATTERS MOVED TO A STRONG RESOLUTION WHICH WE HAD TO VETO, THIS ALSO WOULD NOT BE CONDUCIVE TO CREATING CONDITIONS FAVORABLE TO RESUMING PEACE PROCESS OR TO OUR ABILITY TO BE OF HELP IN THAT PROCESS. KISSINGER

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